

Revenue (1897) Department.

PRESS SERIES.

G.O., No. 471

DATED 18th June 1897

[Despatch Abstract.]

Fortnightly narrative.

Recording Board's Progs. submg. to Govt.,
with remarks, — of the Vizagapatam
district for the period ending 15th May
1897.

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

Revenue Financial (1897) Department.

CURRENT No. 2891

The Hon. Mr. Gole Ch.
Prime Minister

From

The Board of Revenue,
Rev. Sett.

Order (Press)

N. 471 of 18th June 1897.

28/5/97

Recorded

28/5/97

No. 205

Dated 28th May 1897

Received 11.6.97

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Enclosures

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SUBJECT.

Selling fortnightly
narrative of the Vizagapatam
St. for the period ending
15th May 1897

Prime Minister

P.W.D

Land

7/5

A. 1/3

P.D.

2/7

214/6/97
217/6/97

214/6/97

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date

FURTHER PAPERS. O

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

1897.

Board of Revenue

(Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture),

MADRAS.



Recd.

Enclosures

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1897.

Printed June th.

Proceedings, 28th May 1897, No. 405.

MAY.

Fortnightly Narrative.—Submitting to Government, with remarks, — of the Vizagapatam district for the period ending 15th May 1897.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE
(REVENUE SETTLEMENT, LAND RECORDS AND AGRICULTURE).

READ—the following Fortnightly Narrative for the Vizagapatam district during the period ending 15th of May 1897:—

STATE OF THE COUNTRY.

Rainfall and water-supply—

District rainfall.	Actual rainfall. INCHES	Expected rainfall. INCHES
In the fortnight	...	...
Up to the fortnight	0.93	1.65
	1.92	2.85

There have been thunder showers in many places, but no general rain. This is seasonable. The heat has increased enormously during the past fortnight. The rain, I am sorry to say, did not fall in the neighbourhood of relief works to any extent, and, with the exception of heavy showers at Vizagapatam and Vizianagram, was principally confined to the inland and less affected taluks. Water-supply is deficient in many parts of Vizagapatam and Anakápalie and in parts of Bimlipatam taluks. Tanks have some supply in most of the inland taluks.

Agricultural operations and condition of the standing crops.—Ploughing of dry lands is general, and in a very few places wet lands are getting their first ploughing. Gingelly, ragi and cumbu have commenced to be sown, but sparingly; sugarcane is being planted where wells are available. Chillies and gingelly, where standing, have been freshened up by the rain. The prospects of the coming season are as good as can be expected. A few more thunder showers will do much good.

Agricultural operations are, however, not yet undertaken on a sufficient scale to employ much labour beyond that of the ryots and their servants.

Supply of fodder and pasture and condition of cattle.—Pasture is up to the usual hot weather standard almost everywhere, and much above it in many parts. It is still very scarce indeed, however, in those parts of Vizagapatam taluk which were not touched by the recent showers. Except in the latter parts, cattle are generally in good or fair condition.

Fodder is exceedingly dear and in some places difficult to procure.

Unless the monsoon holds off I have little or no apprehension of mortality among cattle.

General remarks on the previous subjects.—The general state and appearance of the country is not bad for the season of year. Everything is being got ready for early sowing as soon as the season permits, and the ryots may be trusted to lose no time. They are, however, wisely cautious about trusting to hot weather showers, which may or may not be received in the next fortnight. Prospects it is at present impossible to gauge, but they are not unfavourable so far as can be judged now.

FOOD SUPPLIES AND THE STATE OF THE MARKETS.

Prices of principal food-grains at principal markets in the affected tracts, in seers of 80 tolas per rupee, for the period ending 15th of May 1897.

Stations.	Rice.		Ragi.		Cumbu.		Remarks.
	End of last period.	End of current period.	End of last period.	End of current period.	End of last period.	End of current period.	
1. Párvatipuram ..	9.84	+ 9.51	17.28	+ 16.48	17.50	17.50	There has been a rise of nearly a seer in the price of ragi, which however is still a good deal cheaper than scarcity rate. I suppose it is inevitable that there should be a further continuing rise until the monsoon is established.
2. Sálár ..	11.07	11.07	18.72	+ 17.64	16.45	+ 14.70	
3. Palkonda ..	9.60	10.17	16.16	+ 15.15	19.80	+ 18.81	
4. Gajapatinagram ..	9.84	+ 9.43	17.76	+ 15.54	17.28	17.28	
5. Chipurupalle ..	9.84	9.84	15.12	..	17.28	..	
6. Vizianagram ..	9.60	+ 9.04	16.16	+ 14.64	14.85	+ 13.86	
7. Vizagapatam ..	9.04	9.04	15.25	+ 14.44	13.86	+ 13.36	
8. Chódavaramu ..	9.50	9.50	19.11	19.11	18.48	18.48	
9. Anakápalie ..	9.00	9.00	16.38	+ 15.47	..	..	
10. Yellamanchili ..	11.00	+ 10.00	14.56	14.56	..	..	
11. Narasapatnam ..	9.40	10.00	16.80	+ 15.12	16.20	16.20	
Average ..	9.79	9.69	16.66	15.81	16.85	16.27	

Activity of Trade.—

	Exports.	Imports.
	MDS.	MDS.
By sea for the period ending 8th May 1897	988	..
By rail for the period ending 8th May 1897	2,006	18,939
	CARTS.	CARTS.
By road from Jeypore for the period ending 8th May 1897.	..	4,669

Trade active. Markets very well supplied. No difficulty in purchasing staple grain anywhere, even in small villages.

CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE.

On Works.—The condition of relief workers may be described as good. Certainly I do not think that any ordinary observer inspecting a number of them would notice them as differing materially from an ordinary crowd of coolies collected at any time. But, of course, there are exceptions. The Famine Commissioner has seen most of the workers in the district himself during the fortnight.

In villages.—Good with very few exceptions. Inquiries continue to be made. The weavers in Pondur have been carefully watched, as they were reported short of work. They are, however, still unwilling to work at task rates. What they would like is an unlimited market at ordinary prices. Nowhere else does there appear to be any suspicion of distress among weavers.

Sickness and mortality.—No deaths from starvation. Cholera is prevalent in parts, but nowhere very virulent. I am thankful to say it has not appeared on any relief work.

Remarks.—The season is apparently healthy. I expect an increased death-rate with the monsoon, as I believe generally occurs after a period of scarcity.

MEASURES OF RELIEF.

On works.—In what taluks open and comparison of numbers.

Taluku.	Number employed		Remarks.
	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	
<i>Relief workers.</i>			
I. Vizianagram—			The increase in numbers on works is steady and not excessive.
(1) Pusapatirega	1,994	3,443	
II. Bimlipatam—			
(1) Dakmarri	2,371	3,015	
(2) Padmanabham	40	1,487	
III. Vizagapatam—			
(1) Pondur	2,062	1,653	
(2) Gazuvaka	2,087	2,174	
IV. Sarvasiddhi—			
(1) Kondakarla	1,859	1,977	
Total ..	9,913	13,749	
<i>Test relief works.</i>			
I. Bimlipatam—			Closed on 6th May 1897. Work was finished and Rega was on their reach. Lately opened to provide work in the neighbourhood of their homes for those who cannot fairly be expected to go to Rega.
(1) Bhogapuram	417	513	
II. Chipurupalli—			
(1) Ranastalam	..	526	
Total ..	417	1,039	
Grand Total ..	10,330	14,788	

Gratuitous Relief.—Numbers relieved at kitchens and otherwise—

Taluks.	Number relieved at kitchens.			
	Dependants.		Others.	
	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.
<i>Government.</i>				
I. Parvatipuram taluk—				
(1) Kitchen at Parvatipur	..	..	99	120
II. Chipurupalle taluk—				
(1) Kitchen at Ranastalam	..	32	193	283
III. Vizianagram taluk—				
(1) Kitchen at Pusapatirega	143	125	96	33
(2) Do. at Vizianagram	..	..	151	195
IV. Bimlipatam taluk—				
(1) Kitchen at Dakmarri	52	81	12	19
(2) Do. at Bhogapuram	91	158	4	23
(3) Do. at Padmanabham	5	116	..	36
V. Vizagapatam taluk—				
(1) Kitchen at Pondur	143	193	44	72
(2) Do. at Gazuvaka	155	199	6	22
VI. Sarvasiddhi taluk—				
(1) Kitchen at Kondakerla	46	76	116	161
Total	635	980	721	964
<i>Rajah Gajapati Rao's kitchens.</i>				
1. Vizagapatam	..	..	140	225
2. Anakapalle	..	..	97	130
3. Sarvasiddhi	..	..	500	666
Total	..	..	737	1,021
Grand Total	635	980	1,458	1,985

Private charity.—Private charity on a considerable scale continues to be dispensed by the Maharajah of Vizianagram, the Rajah of Bobbili, Rajah Gajapati Rao, the Rani Sahib of Wadhwan, Rani Ankitam Achayamma, Messrs. Perla Narayana Chetti

and K. Venkanna Garu. The sources of ordinary small private charity have not dried up. This is proved by the fact that in the large towns the professional beggars prefer their own trade to the kitchens available.

GENERAL REMARKS.

During the fortnight no new works have been opened, those in existence being in my opinion sufficient to cover the affected area. The provision of ample ordinary work by the Public Works Department in Sarvasiddhi taluk has, together with the kitchens maintained there, obviated the otherwise inevitable necessity of more relief works there. The distress which would have been felt in that taluk was only the want of employment and that is now met by the ordinary works at full rates and the Kondakerla relief work. The Public Works Department has now taken over charge of all relief works, but the overseer posted to Gazuvaka, being an absolutely new hand without experience, has been superseded by the Executive Engineer to whom I have lent a Local Fund overseer, although these latter are now fully employed at their own work which is also useful in employing labour all over the district. During the fortnight I closed the Bhogapuram test work, as it was within three miles of the nearest part of the Rega work, and I have opened a small work to employ about 500 coolies at Ranastalam on the edge of Chipurupalle taluk, north of Rega. This I thought well to do as the Principal Assistant Collector reported that in the kitchen at that place were many people fit for work if near at hand, but unfit to be sent away to Rega, where, however, hutting accommodation has been provided. The present is the most critical period of the whole season, things must soon either mend or get worse. The distress hitherto developed is not of a severe character and, if only the monsoon is a fair one, there is little to fear.

LOAN TRANSACTIONS.—Statement showing particulars of loan transactions under the Land Improvement and Agriculturists' Loans Act.

Taluka.	Repair and construction of wells.						Other purposes.						Total.						Number of wells.	
	Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.		Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.		Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.		Constructed or repaired.	Under construction or repair.
	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
1. Palkonda	..	..	..	..	..	Rs. ..	7	1,000	7	1,000	..	..	7	1,000	7	1,000	..	..	..	..
2. Sarvasiddhi	..	..	..	..	6	2,400	..	..	..	..	11	4,100	..	..	..	..	17	6,500	..	..
3. Golconda	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	875	2	375	10	2,420	2	375	2	375	10	2,420	..	..
Total ..	..	..	..	..	6	2,400	9	1,375	9	1,375	21	6,520	9	1,375	9	1,375	27	8,920	..	..

Taluka.	Purchase of fodder.						Cattle and seed-grain.						Total.					
	Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.		Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.		Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.	
	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.
1 Palkonda	(a) 15	Rs. 540	15	540	..	..	134	5,990	134	5,990	97	4,140	138	6,530	138	6,530	97	4,140
2. Sarvasiddhi	..	..	..	..	2	110	36	2,110	36	2,110	170	31,275	36	2,110	36	2,110	172	31,385
3. Golconda	(b) 291	5,318	(b) 291	6,318	(b) 845	20,400	(b) 291	6,503	(b) 291	6,503	(b) 845	49,407	291	11,821	291	11,821	845	69,807
Total ..	306	5,858	306	5,858	847	20,510	461	14,603	461	14,603	1,112	84,822	465	20,461	465	20,461	1,114	1,05,332

(b) In these cases, fodder, seed-grain and cattle were applied for in one and the same application.

(a) Includes eleven applications shown in column 28.

TALUKS AND PLACES VISITED.

Principal Assistant Collector.

Vizianagram taluk	...	...	...	...	{ Vizianagram (kitchen).
					{ Pusapatirega (work).
					{ Padmanabham (work).
Bimlipatam taluk	...	...	...	...	{ Bhogapuram (do.)
					{ Dakmarri (do.)
Chipurupalle taluk	...	...	...	...	Banastalam (kitchen and starting work).

Senior Assistant Collector.

					Vikramapuram.
					Astam.
					Duggi.
Párvatipuram taluk	...	...	...	...	China Merangi.
					Pedda Merangi.
					Kurupám.
					Manda.
					Gumma.
					Elwinpeta.
Gunnur taluk	...	...	...	...	Jagannadhapuram.
					Ukkamba.
					Regada.

Head Assistant Collector.

Sarvasiddhi taluk	...	...	...	...	Kondakerla relief work and twelve villages.
Anakápalle taluk	...	...	...	...	Anakápalle (kitchen).
				...	Munagapaka and Jaggayyapéta.
Huzur Deputy Collector	...	...	...	...	All the works and kitchens in his division.

Collector.

Vizianagram taluk		...	...	...	} Vizianagram (kitchen). Pusapatirega (work). Dakmarri (do.).
Bimlipatam taluk	...	...	...	...	
					} Bhogapuram (do.). Padmanabham (do.). Pendurti (do.).
Vizagapatam taluk	...	...	...	...	
					} Gazuvaka (do.). Balacheruvu.

twice.

RESOLUTION—dated 28th May 1897, No. 405.

Submitted for the information of Government.

2. The rainfall during the fortnight was below the average. The supply of water is deficient in the Central Coast taluks. Agricultural operations are as yet on a small scale, though dry lands are generally being prepared for sowing.

3. There need be no anxiety about cattle, unless the monsoon holds off, as pasture is, except in parts of the Vizagapatam taluk, either up to, or above, the normal hot-weather standard.

4. Prices rose, especially that of ragi, the staple crop of the district. The position of prices is shown in the accompanying table.

Government {1897} of Madras. REVENUE.

8 BOARD OF REVENUE (REV. SETT., L. RDS. AND AGRI.), 28TH MAY 1897, No. 405.

Rate.	Beers per rupee.		
	Rice.	Ragi.	Cumbu.
Standard	15.0	28.0	30.0
Warning	12.0	21.0	22.5
Scarcity	9.0	14.0	15.0
Current	9.7	15.8	16.3
May 1892	10.0	15.7	16.6
„ 1878	7.6	12.6	12.1

It will be observed that ragi touched scarcity rate and that cumbu was dearer than scarcity rate at three stations.

Trade was active and markets were well supplied.

5. The condition of the people was normal, with but few exceptions, but the growing intensity of distress may be gauged by the fact that relief-workers increased by 43 per cent. during the fortnight. The Collector should explain the falling off at Pondur.

6. The progress in disposing of applications for loans is slow, as is shown by the following figures :—

Amount disbursed.	Up to the end of the week ending.		
Rs.	May 1st	8th	15th
15,855	...	...	...
18,325	...	...	...
24,781	...	...	...
31,187	...	...	...

Applications for nearly a lakh and a quarter still remain undisposed of. Much remains to be done in Golkonda, if the applications there are *bonâ fide*, of which the Famine Commissioner has some doubts.

7. The Collector is fully awake to the necessities of the district, and is doing all that is required. There need be no anxiety about the district unless the monsoon fails.

(True Copy and Extract.)

Amriner 2/6
Famine Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department. ✓
„ Collector of Vizagapatam.
Copy to the Sanitary Commissioner.

Exd. C. Thumbusawmy.

Recd.

Enclosures

1897.

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G.O., No. 471, 18th June 1897.

JUNE.

Fortnightly Narrative.

Recording Board's Proceedings submitting to Government, with remarks, — of the Vizagapatam district for the period ending 15th May 1897.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

Read—the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture), dated 28th May 1897, No. 405:—

Read—the following Fortnightly Narrative for the Vizagapatam district during the period ending 15th of May 1897:—

STATE OF THE COUNTRY.

Rainfall and water-supply—

District rainfall.						Actual rainfall.	Expected rainfall.
						INCHES	INCHES
In the fortnight	...	...	...	...	...	0.93	1.65
Up to the fortnight	...	...	...	...	...	1.92	2.85

There have been thunder showers in many places, but no general rain. This is seasonable. The heat has increased enormously during the past fortnight. The rain, I am sorry to say, did not fall in the neighbourhood of relief works to any extent, and, with the exception of heavy showers at Vizagapatam and Vizianagram, was principally confined to the inland and less affected taluks. Water-supply is deficient in many parts of Vizagapatam and Anakápalie and in parts of Bimlipatam taluks. Tanks have some supply in most of the inland taluks.

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Agricultural operations are, however, not yet undertaken on a sufficient scale to employ much labour beyond that of the ryots and their servants.

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Fodder is exceedingly dear and in some places difficult to procure.

Unless the monsoon holds off I have little or no apprehension of mortality among cattle.

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FOOD SUPPLIES AND THE STATE OF THE MARKETS.

Prices of principal food-grains at principal markets in the affected tracts, in seers of 80 tolas per rupee, for the period ending 15th of May 1897.

Stations.	Rice.		Ragi.		Cumbu.		Remarks.
	End of last period.	End of current period.	End of last period.	End of current period.	End of last period.	End of current period.	
1. Párvatipuram ..	9.84	+ 9.51	17.28	+ 16.48	17.50	17.50	There has been a rise of nearly a seer in the price of ragi, which however is still a good deal cheaper than scarcity rate. I suppose it is inevitable that there should be a further continuing rise until the monsoon is established.
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Remarks.—The season is apparently healthy. I expect an increased death-rate with the monsoon, as I believe generally occurs after a period of scarcity.

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On works.—In what taluks open and comparison of numbers.

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	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	
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Taluka.	Number relieved at kitchens.			
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	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.
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Grand Total ..	635	980	1,458	1,985

Private charity.—Private charity on a considerable scale continues to be dispensed by the Maharajah of Vizianagram, the Rajah of Bobbili, Rajah Gajapati Rao, the Rani Sahib of Wadhwan, Rani Ankitam Achayamma, Messrs. Perla Narayana Chetti

and K. Venkanna Garu. The sources of ordinary small private charity have not dried up. This is proved by the fact that in the large towns the professional beggars prefer their own trade to the kitchens available.

GENERAL REMARKS.

During the fortnight no new works have been opened, those in existence being in my opinion sufficient to cover the affected area. The provision of ample ordinary work by the Public Works Department in Sarvasiddhi taluk has, together with the kitchens maintained there, obviated the otherwise inevitable necessity of more relief works there. The distress which would have been felt in that taluk was only the want of employment and that is now met by the ordinary works at full rates and the Kondakerla relief work. The Public Works Department has now taken over charge of all relief works, but the overseer posted to Gazuvaka, being an absolutely new hand without experience, has been superseded by the Executive Engineer to whom I have lent a Local Fund overseer, although these latter are now fully employed at their own work which is also useful in employing labour all over the district. During the fortnight I closed the Bhogapuram test work, as it was within three miles of the nearest part of the Rega work, and I have opened a small work to employ about 500 coolies at Ranastalam on the edge of Chipurupalle taluk, north of Rega. This I thought well to do as the Principal Assistant Collector reported that in the kitchen at that place were many people fit for work if near at hand, but unfit to be sent away to Rega, where, however, hutting accommodation has been provided. The present is the most critical period of the whole season, things must soon either mend or get worse. The distress hitherto developed is not of a severe character and, if only the monsoon is a fair one, there is little to fear.

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Principal Assistant Collector.

Senior Assistant Collector.

Head Assistant Collector.

Collector.

Resolution—dated 28th May 1897, No. 405.

Submitted for the information of Government.

2. The rainfall during the fortnight was below the average. The supply of water is deficient in the Central Coast taluks. Agricultural operations are as yet on a small scale, though dry lands are generally being prepared for sowing.

3. There need be no anxiety about cattle, unless the monsoon holds off, as pasture is, except in parts of the Vizagapatam taluk, either up to, or above, the normal hot-weather standard.

4. Prices rose, especially that of ragi, the staple crop of the district. The position of prices is shown in the accompanying table:—

Rate.	Seers per rupee.		
	Rice.	Ragi.	Cumbu.
Standard	15-0	28-0	30-0
Warning	12-0	21-0	22-5
Scarcity	9-0	14-0	15-0
Current	9-7	15-8	16-3
May 1892	10-0	15-7	16-6
„ 1878	7-6	12-5	12-1

It will be observed that ragi touched scarcity rate and that cumbu was dearer than scarcity rate at three stations.

Trade was active and markets were well supplied.

5. The condition of the people was normal, with but few exceptions, but the growing intensity of distress may be gauged by the fact that relief-workers increased by 43 per cent. during the fortnight. The Collector should explain the falling off at Pondur.

6. The progress in disposing of applications for loans is slow, as is shown by the following figures:—

Amount disbursed.								Up to the end of the week ending.
RS.								
15,855	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	May 1st
18,325	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	" 8th
24,781	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	" 15th
31,187	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	" 22nd

Applications for nearly a lakh and a quarter still remain undisposed of. Much remains to be done in Golconda, if the applications there are *bona fide*, of which the Famine Commissioner has some doubts.

7. The Collector is fully awake to the necessities of the district, and is doing all that is required. There need be no anxiety about the district unless the monsoon fails.

(True Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) L. E. BUCKLEY,
Famine Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.

" Collector of Vizagapatam.

Copy to the Sanitary Commissioner.

ORDER—No. 471, Revenue, dated 18th June 1897.

Miscellaneous.

Recorded.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) G. STOKES,
Ag. Secretary to Government.

To the Famine Commissioner.

" the Public Works Department.

" the Local and Municipal Department.

" Financial Department.

" Accountant-General.

" the Public Department.

Ed. Shaik Karim.

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